

Alexander, Burke, Catawba and Caldwell Counties is projected to the year 1990. According to the report, the total population of the four counties is expected to change from the 1960 figure of 191,069 to a 1990 figure of 268,295 -- an increase of about 40%. (Catawba County is given as one of the leaders in this increase, with a 1960-1990 growth of almost 52%.) Of course, Hickory, with its rapid industrial expansion in furniture and other nationally marketed products, is a big influence on the Catawba region. The nearness of Maiden, however, to this city and other important points along the well-known Piedmont Crescent of North Carolina will no doubt have an affect on the local area, along with the growth factors already noted.

#### MIGRATION

Three basic causes for population change in a community are births, deaths and migration. Births and deaths are factors of nature -- unless, of course, war or some other catastrophic occurrence should enter the picture. Migration is the residential movement of people into or out of the community; thus, the terms of "inmigration" and "outmigration" are used in this and other similar publications.

TABLE 2 NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		
	Actual	Natural	Expected	Actual	Net	
	1950	Increase	1960	1960	Migra-	
	Pop.	1950-60*	Pop.	Pop.	tion	Per
			(1+2)		(3+4)	Cent
Maiden	1,952	399	2,351	2,039	-312	-13.3
Catawba						
County	61,794	12,744	74,538	73,191	-1,347	- 1.8

\*Natural increase for Maiden is based on Catawba County rate due to methods of recording vital statistics for towns of this size.

Source: Based on U.S. Census and N.C. Department of Health data.